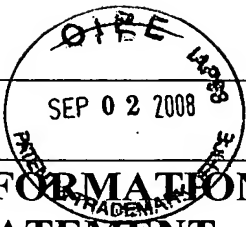


HFW

			
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT		Docket No. 52433/842	Confirm. No. 9443
Application Number 10/576,224	Filing Date April 13, 2006	Examiner Jason L. Savage	Art Unit 1794
Invention Title LARGE-HEAT-INPUT BUTT WELDED JOINTS HAVING EXCELLENT BRITTLE FRACTURE RESISTANCE		Inventor(s) ISHIKAWA et al.	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on
Date: AUGUST 27, 2008
Signature: John J. Kelly, Jr.
John J. Kelly, Jr. (Reg. No. 29,182)

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement and the enclosed PTO Form No. 1449, shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is prior art, or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). The paragraphs marked below are applicable. It is believed that no fees other than those indicated below are due, but authorization is hereby given to charge any additional fees due, or to credit any overpayment, to **Kenyon & Kenyon LLP, deposit account 11-0600**.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a final action, Notice of Allowance, or any action that otherwise closes prosecution.

a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

2. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references are attached hereto.

3. The references cited herein were cited in a Chinese Office Action of **June 6, 2008** provided herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 27, 2008

John J. Kelly, Jr.
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE			
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